

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENTS

Claims 1-12, 19, 23, 24, 26, and 27 were previously canceled.

Claim 28 is canceled herein.

Claims 13, 16, and 29 have been amended.

The amendment of Claims 13, 16, and 29 is supported the claims as previously presented and throughout the specification as filed. The amendment of Claim 13 is further supported by previously pending Claim 28. Further support for the amendment of Claims 13 and 16 is provided by the Examples.

No new matter is believed to have been entered by these amendments.

REMARKS

Claims 13-18, 20-22, 25, 29, and 30 are pending in the present application. Claims 13-18, 20-22, 25, 29, and 30 read on the elected invention.

At the outset, Applicants wish to thank Examiner Fronda for the helpful and courteous discussion with their undersigned Representative on September 11, 2007. During this discussion, the specific amendment herein to Claim 13 to add the limitations of Claim 28 were discussed vis-à-vis the outstanding rejections. The Examiner acknowledged that Claim 28 is free from the criticism as lacking written description and that amending Claim 13 to include the limitations of this claim would obviate the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. The content of this discussion is believed to be reflected in the amendments and remarks herein. Reconsideration of the outstanding rejections is requested in view of the following.

The rejection of Claims 13-18, 20-22, 25, 29, and 30 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph (written description), is respectfully traversed.

Applicants make no statement with respect to the propriety of this ground of rejection and in no way acquiesce to the same. Nonetheless, Applicants have amended Claim 13 to include the limitations of previously pending Claim 28, which the Examiner recognizes as having met the written description requirement.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that the presently claimed invention complies with the written description requirement of 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. Therefore, withdrawal of this ground of rejection is requested.

The rejection of Claims 16 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, is obviated by amendment.

Applicants have amended Claims 13 (added the limitations from previous Claim 28) and 16 to specifically address the Examiner's criticism by adopting the Examiner's suggested amendment. Accordingly, this ground of rejection is believed to be moot.

Withdrawal of this ground of rejection is requested.

The objection of Claim 29 (erroneously indicated as Claim 39 in the Office Action) is obviated by amendment. The spelling of the 6-phosphogluconate dehydrase has been corrected. Withdrawal of this ground of objection is requested..

Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. Early notification to this effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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